



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## ST. GEORGE'S HALL.

THE "Bijou Operetta Company" commenced a series of performances at this elegant little theatre on the 13th ult., with every prospect of success. The opening Operetta, "The Forester's Daughters," is the composition of Mr. W. Chalmers Masters, the musical director, and contains somelght and pleasing music, which will, we think, prove acceptable in the drawing-room. We may especially mention a gracefully written duet, excellently given by Miss Susanna Cole and Miss Elena Angèle, and a song thrown off with much intelligence and vivacity by Miss Angèle, both compositions receiving an unanimous encore. Miss Susanna Cole (the soprano) achieved a well-merited success, and Mr. William Offord, Mr. Ralph Wilkinson, and Mr. Pellisier were also highly effective in the music allotted to them. At the conclusion of the Operetta the composer appeared on the stage, and was cordially greeted by the audience. The performance concluded with Virginia Gabriel's Operetta, "The Widows Bewitched," in which Miss Clara Lacey fully sustained her reputation as a pleasing singer of light operatic music.

## ITALY.

THE opera season is commencing this autumn at MILAN with better prospects than have attended musical performances in this city for some time past. There is greater desire evinced on the part of musical providers to produce sterling compositions than heretofore: witness the list of operas proposed for the Scala and Carcano Theatres. At the former, for instance, Felicien David's *Ercolano*, Boito's *Mefistofele*, and Rossini's *Guglielmo Tell* are spoken of among several other works of eminence; while, as a climax to these spirited proceedings, arrangements have been made with the illustrious composer of *Faust*, Charles Gounod, to come to La Scala expressly for the purpose of himself conducting his last new opera, *Romeo e Giulietta*. At the Carcano are mentioned as forthcoming the following operas: Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and *Nozze di Figaro*, Cimarosa's *Matrimonio Segreto*, Felicien David's *Lala Rouk*, with at least half a dozen more.

In GENOA the Carlo Felice Theatre opened on the 2d Nov. with Meyerbeer's *Dinorah*, the Prima Donna being Signora de Maesen, a most accomplished artist. Her voice is pure, fresh, and powerful; while her command over it is complete. She executes the difficult passages of vocalization that abound in her part in this opera with a precision and finish, yet at the same time with a beauty of tone, that are positively delightful. Cavaliere Maestro Mazzucato, musical director at the Conservatorio di Milan, was invited by the directors of the Carlo Felice Theatre to superintend the rehearsals and conduct the performances of this opera during the absence of the usual resident professor employed by the Genoese directorship; and the result was such as left nothing to be desired. Maestro Mazzucato's spirited yet unaffected mode of conducting; his unflinching attention to the duties of his position; and his careful preservation of the pianos as well as the fortes and crescendos of his orchestral executants, are all most satisfactory; and will make his resignation, after his temporary occupation of the conductor's seat, a thing to be regretted.

The brief operatic season at the Paganini Theatre consisted of about a dozen nights' performances of Verdi's *Ballo in Maschera*; and a Miscellaneous Concert given by Cavaliere Camillo Sivori. The famed violinist's exquisite tone and polished execution are unchanged; but, alas! so also is his usual choice of inferior music for performance. He seems to have an irradicable conviction that trashy pieces from opera airs, and fantasias upon trivial themes, are the only things that will please an audience; and thus leaves unguen such violin solos and instrumental quartetts by classical composers as we know, by rare experience, that he can so magnificently deliver if he choose. We think he is mistaken, and that the best of music is popularly appreciated when brought forward; therefore, we are not without hope that Cavaliere Sivori will be persuaded (as we have heard it whispered that attempts are being made to this effect) to perform some really sterling violin piece at Maestro Lavagnino's forthcoming classical concerts, a third series of which is promised for the approaching winter season.

A MUSICAL Performance by the pupils of the London Society for Teaching the Blind to Read, took place at the Upper Avenue-road, Regent's-park, on the 12th ult. The programme was, as usual, excellently selected; and the execution of the various pieces reflected the utmost credit upon the performers, and upon their able and conscientious instructor, Mr. Edwin Barnes. The Chairman, C. Avery, Esq., highly complimented both professor and pupils upon the result of their joint labours.

THE Tonic Sol-fa Choral Society gave a performance of *Elijah*, at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on the 11th ult. The band and chorus consisted of about 200 performers, and the principal solo singers were Miss Edmonds, Miss Palmer, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Winn, Miss Blanche Burr, Mrs. Parish, Mr. Cook, and Mr. Burcombe assisting in the double quartett. Mr. Montem Smith being indisposed, was unable to sing much of the tenor music; and the greater portion of the part was therefore allotted to Mr. Carter, whose singing of "Then shall the righteous" was greatly admired. The choruses were well given; the sopranos, especially, being noticeable for accuracy throughout the whole work. Miss Edmonds was highly successful in the soprano music, and Miss Palmer and Mr. Winn sustained their parts with their usual ability. Mr. Thos. Gardner was the conductor; and Mr. Nicholas Heins presided at the organ.

A CONCERT was given by Herr Immanuel Liebhich, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Friday evening, the 8th ult., which was well attended. The programme was essentially a popular one; and to the admirers of Herr Liebhich's compositions must have been a rich treat, his name appearing no less than ten times. Besides Herr Liebhich's performance, we had the clever playing of his son, a boy only nine years of age, who, if he be not spoiled by the flattery usually bestowed upon precocious pianists, may in time become a genuine artist. The "Musical Box" (performed and composed by the concert-giver) was unanimously encored. In this composition the attempt to subdue the natural capacities of the pianoforte has been extremely successful; and we have no doubt that it will become highly popular. Herr Liebhich was assisted in the vocal department by Madlle. Liebhart, Madame Czerny, Madame Sauerbrey, Mr. George Perren, and Mr. Lewis Thomas.

THE Members of the Poplar Glee and Madrigal Union, under the direction of Mr. Hinton, gave a very successful concert in the Burdett Hall, Limehouse, on the 6th ult. Mrs. Hinton presided at the pianoforte. The programme consisted of a selection of part-music, amongst the most prominent of which we may instance "The Pilgrims" (Leslie); the motett, "Methinks I hear" (Dr. Crotch); "My bonny lass" (Morley); "O hush thee, my babe" (Sullivan); and the "Hunting Song" (Benedict). Several vocal solos were also effectively given by members of the choir. The hall was extremely full.

THE first of a series of Six Concerts was given by Herr Carl Hause, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on the evening of the 21st ult. Herr Hause displayed much energy and brilliancy of execution in Mozart's Sonata for two pianofortes (in which he was joined by Signor Catalani) in the first movement of Hummel's Concerto in A minor, and some light pieces of his own composition. A "Duo concertante," by Herr Hause (for two pianofortes) was also performed by the composer and Miss Ellice Jewell. He was assisted in the vocal department by Signorina Luigia Leale (a singer with good executive powers), Miss Fanny Armytage, and Miss Anna Jewell.

THE Blackfriars Choral Union gave a Concert on the 11th ult., at Albion Hall, when several excellent glees and part-songs were given by the choir; and the solo vocalists (amongst the most prominent of whom were Mrs. Parsons, Miss Hume, Mr. Howell, and Mr. Crome) acquitted themselves to the thorough satisfaction of the audience. Mr. W. Crome ably presided at the pianoforte, and Mr. Parsons conducted.

MENDELSSOHN'S "Reformation" Symphony, performed at the Crystal Palace for the first time in England, (too late for a notice in our present number) will be played for the second time at the concert of Mr. Joseph Barnby's choir, on the 12th inst. The interest excited in musical circles by the publication of these new works of the greatest of modern composers appears likely to continue; for already we hear of other compositions in preparation. The eighth book of "Lieder ohne Worte," played for the first time at the "Monday Popular Concerts" by Madame Arabella Goddard, will be again performed by Herr Pauer at Mr. Barnby's concert, the programme of which will be exclusively devoted to the works of Mendelssohn, and will include the "Trumpet" overture, and an "Ave Maria" (a soprano solo, with chorus for female voices), from the unfinished opera, *Lorelei*, which has only once been heard in London many years since, under the direction of Mr. Benedict.

MR. CHAPLIN HENRY has been appointed Basso in the choir of the Foundling Hospital, in the place of the late Mr. W. H. Weiss.

WE understand that Mr. German Reed has taken St. George's Hall, Langham-place, in order to carry out his design of establishing in the metropolis a comic opera, derived both from native and foreign sources. The Hall is undergoing the necessary alterations, in the construction of private boxes, and the enlargement of the stage for the production of opera and extravaganza. An undertaking like this interests every lover of music; and it has been intimated to us that the prices of admission will be within the range of all classes. As an earnest of good intention, a new operatic extravaganza will be immediately announced, from the pen of Mr. F. C. Burnand, whose humorous productions are well known in the theatrical world, and Mr. A. S. Sullivan, a young and rising composer, whose works have already placed him in a high position. Our favourite place of resort, the Gallery of Illustration, will, of course, be unaffected by Mr. German Reed's connection with the St. George's Opera House. The present entertainment there, which is still running a prosperous career, will, we hear, be replaced by novelty before the present year runs out.

THE South Norwood Musical Society gave a performance of Mr. Barnett's *Ancient Mariner* on Monday, the 18th ult., which was a great success. The principal singers were Mrs. Leete, Misses Whitaker, L. Stainburn, and Bernoulli; Messrs. Fishwick, Howgrave, and Brookman. The duet, "Two voices in the air," sung by Mrs. Leete and Miss Whitaker was encored, and certainly deserved all the praise accorded to it. Mr. Howgrave sustained the onerous part of the *Ancient Mariner* in a most satisfactory manner. The tenor music was well sung by Mr. Fishwick, and sung, we desire to put upon record, without any of the airs and graces peculiar to amateur tenor singers in general. The ladies, apart from the duet, have little solo music, but the two already eulogised sang each an air very well; Miss Bernoulli took the most trying solo in "This seraph band;" and the remaining repre-